

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A method, comprising:
  - capturing an original machine-readable code (MRC) at a location of a document;
  - generating a new MRC based on the captured original MRC, the new MRC representing the same data of the original MRC, the new MRC and the original MRC having an identical format; and
  - replacing the original MRC with the new MRC to generate an electronic version of the document having the new MRC and a remainder of contents of the document, wherein the new MRC is located at substantially the same location as the original MRC with respect to the remainder of the contents of the document.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising printing the document on a media with the new MRC.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
  - scanning the document; and
  - locating the original MRC within the scanned document.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
  - recognizing the original MRC of the document; and
  - determining the location of the MRC with respect to contents of the document.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising determining dimensions of the location where the original MRC occupies, wherein the new MRC is generated having substantially the same dimension of the original MRC's dimension.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising aligning the new MRC with the direction of the pixels comprising the image prior to the printing.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising aligning the new MRC with respect to pixel boundaries in the document.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising assuring that the location of the original MRC is clear or a solid color.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
determining whether the original MRC has a sufficient quality; and  
prompting for an input whether the original MRC needs to be replaced if it is determined that the original MRC lacks sufficient quality, wherein the new MRC is generated and printed in response to the input received.

10. (Original) The method defined in claim 9 wherein sufficient quality is based on at least one of contrast and orientation and detected read errors and image noise.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising recognizing a signature of the document, wherein generating and printing the new MRC are performed automatically if the format of the document is recognized.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the original MRC is a barcode.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the original MRC is an OCR text.

28. (Previously Presented) A machine-readable medium having executable code to cause a machine to perform a method, the method comprising:

capturing an original machine-readable code (MRC) at a location of a document;  
generating a new MRC based on the original MRC, the new MRC representing the same data of the original MRC, the new MRC and the original MRC having an identical format; and  
replacing the original MRC with the new MRC to generate an electronic version of the document having the new MRC and a remainder of contents of the document, wherein the new MRC is located at substantially the same location as the original MRC with respect to the remainder of the contents of the document.

29. (Previously Presented) A method, comprising:

locating and capturing a first machine readable code (MRC) at a location of a first image representing an electronic document page scanned from a physical document;

recognizing a page signature of the first image;  
automatically generating a second MRC based on the first MRC in response to the recognized page signature; and

replacing the original MRC with the new MRC to generate a second image, the original MRC and the new MRC having an identical format and representing the same data, wherein the new MRC is located at substantially the same location as the original MRC with respect to a remainder of content of the first image.

30. (Previously Presented) A method, comprising:

locating and capturing a first machine readable code (MRC) at a location of a first image representing an electronic document page scanned from a physical document;

generating a second MRC based on the first MRC to generate a second image, the original MRC and the new MRC having an identical format and representing the same data; and

placing the second MRC with a guard area at substantially the same location as the first MRC with respect to rest of pixels of the first image, wherein the guard area causes the second MRC to be read more easily than the first MRC when the second image having the second MRC is printed.

31. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 28, wherein the method further comprises printing the document on a media with the new MRC.

32. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 28, wherein the method further comprises:

scanning the document; and  
locating the original MRC within the scanned document.

33. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 28, wherein the method further comprises:

recognizing the original MRC of the document; and  
determining the location of the MRC with respect to contents of the document.

34. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 28, wherein the method further comprises determining dimensions of the location where the original MRC occupies, wherein the new MRC is generated having substantially the same dimension of the original MRC's dimension.

35. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 28, wherein the method further comprises aligning the new MRC with the direction of the pixels comprising the image prior to the printing.

36. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 28, wherein the method further comprises aligning the new MRC with respect to pixel boundaries in the document.

37. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 28, wherein the method further comprises assuring that the location of the original MRC is clear or a solid color.

38. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 28, wherein the method further comprises:

determining whether the original MRC has a sufficient quality; and  
prompting for an input whether the original MRC needs to be replaced if it is determined that the original MRC lacks sufficient quality, wherein the new MRC is generated and printed in response to the input received.

39. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 38, wherein sufficient quality is based on at least one of contrast and orientation and detected read errors and image noise.

40. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 28, wherein the method further comprises recognizing a signature of the document, wherein generating and printing the new MRC are performed automatically if the format of the document is recognized.

41. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 28, wherein the original MRC is a barcode.

42. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 28, wherein the original MRC is an OCR text.